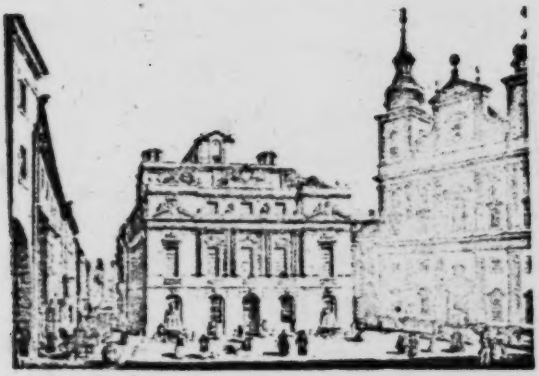
346



Vienna. Old University and Jesuit Church.

876 the mistakes of others, to criticise and to correct them. Ambition was made the spur. The best scholars were publicly commended at the end of the school year, were awarded prizes, and amidst the sound of drums and trumpets, their names were announced with great ceremony to the assembled visitors present at the end of term performance. Their names were inscribed on a list of the successful which was distributed to the guests. Rivalry between the aristocracy and middle classes also encouraged the spirit of competition the former believing that their superior rank obliged them to secure a similar superiority in learning, in which endeavour they frequently met with the competition of sons of middle class parents.

793 798 Vienna was the oldest Jesuit stronghold (after Cologne) in the German-speaking countries. Ten years later, in 1561, a second branch of the Order was established within the frontiers of present-day Austria, the college at Innsbruck, and was soon followed by another, that of Hall-in-Tyrol, in 1569. A year later, in 1570, a branch was established in Graz, in the year 1600 the Jesuits settled in Linz, in 1604 in Klagenfurt, in 1613 in Leoben, 1616 in Krems, 1621 in Judenburg and in 1632 in Steyr. Protestantism at this time was practically unchallenged in the places where these centres were established. In each of them schools were promptly opened and plays were staged in all; the Faith was spread, not only by the ear but also through the receptive medium of the eye.

Many conversions, many changes of outlook must be attributed to the emotional effects of these dramatic representations. Records often refer to the pleasure which Catholics and others found in these performances.